

“Capt. Bulger, in his letters and conversation with me, always called this bird ‘the mocking-bird,’ and corroborated Mrs. Barber’s description of its vocal powers; in fact nothing was safe from its mimicking-powers. I have myself heard our common *Saxicola pileata* imitate the yelping of the farm-curs, the crowing and cackling of fowls, the calls of pheasants and partridges, the harsh notes of the fiscal (*Lanius collaris*), and the clear pipe of the robin.

“Trusting this little history of a new species may not prove uninteresting.

“I am, Sir,

“Yours very faithfully,

“EDGAR L. LAYARD, F.Z.S.”

The following papers were read:—

I. ON A NEW PARROT OF THE GENUS NASITERNA.  
BY P. L. SCLATER, M.A., PH.D., F.R.S.

(Plate XXXV.)

Our Corresponding Member, Mr. Gerard Krefft of Sydney, has lately sent me two specimens of a small Parrot in spirits, stated to be from the Salomon Islands, which turn out upon examination to belong to a new and very beautiful species of the genus *Nasiterna*. The little bird is of very great interest, as being a second known representative of this very peculiar genus of *Psittacidae*—hitherto supposed to be restricted to New Guinea and the Papuan Islands—and as affording an additional proof, if any such were needed, that the Salomon Islands belong strictly to the Austro-Malayan as distinguishable from the Pacific subdivision of the Australian Region.

I propose to call the new species

NASITERNA PUSIO. (Pl. XXXV.)

*Supra viridis, pileo summo obscure cyaneo: fronte et capitis lateribus cum mento fulvis: subtus dilutior, medialiter flavicans: rectricibus duabus mediis cyaneis, macula ovali ad apicem nigra; ceteris nigris, pogonii interni parte apicali cum caudæ tectricibus inferioribus aureo-flavis: cauda rotundata, rectricum sex mediarum rachidibus protractis rigidis, acuminatis, ceterarum rigidiusculis.*

Long. tota 3·3 poll. Angl., alæ 2·5, caudæ 1·1, tarsi 0·3.

*Hab.* Ins. Salomonenses.

*Obs.* Major quam *N. pygmæa*, et colore pilei et faciei, necnon forma et colore caudæ, facile distinguenda.

Of the two specimens received from Mr. Krefft, one which I now exhibit has been made into an excellent stuffed specimen by the artistic hands of Mr. Bartlett, and is the subject of the accompanying plate by Mr. Wolf. An examination of the second specimen left in spirits has enabled me to supply the following particulars concerning



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NASITERNA FUSIO

